

Press release, Lübeck, 29/11/2021

Matt Mullican

Winner of the Possehl Prize for
International Art 2022

Announcement

Matt Mullican is the winner of the Possehl Prize for International Art 2022



Matt Mullican, photo: Felix König, Agentur 54°, Lübeck

The artist visited the Hanseatic city of Lübeck for the first time in November

A jury made up of representatives of internationally renowned art institutions has chosen the American artist Matt Mullican as the second prize-winner of the Possehl Prize for International Art. The award ceremony and the opening of his solo exhibition in Lübeck will take place in October 2022.

With the **Possehl Prize for International Art** the Possehl Foundation recognises living artists with a national and international reputation for their life's work or an outstanding piece or body of work. Inaugurated in 2019, it is awarded every three years. The award consists of €25,000 in prize money and an exhibition in Lübeck. Matt Mullican was delighted by the opportunities that the prize will afford him: in addition to exhibitions in the Kunsthalle St. Annen and St. Peter's church in Lübeck, the artist is planning performances and installations in public spaces.

Solo exhibition in Lübeck:

from October 2022

Locations: Kunsthalle St. Annen,
St. Petri zu Lübeck and others

Curator of the exhibition:

Dr Oliver Zybok, Director of the Overbeck
Gesellschaft Lübeck

Jury members for the Possehl Art Prizes
(2020-2023):

Adam Budak (Kestner Gesellschaft
Hanover, Director)

Fanni Fetzter (Lucerne Art Museum,
Director)

Dr Renate Wiehager (Daimler Art
Collection, Berlin/Stuttgart, Director)

Dr Antje-Britt Mählmann (Kunsthalle St.
Annen, Director)

Dr Oliver Zybok (Overbeck-Gesellschaft,
Director)

Max Schön (Possehl Foundation, Chair)

Prof. Dr Hans Wißkirchen (Kulturstiftung
der Hansestadt Lübeck, Director)

Chair of the Possehl Foundation:

Max Schön
Possehl Foundation Lübeck

Beckergrube 38 – 52
23552 Lübeck

www.possehl-stiftung.de

MEDIA RELATIONS

ARTEFAKT Kulturkonzepte
Ursula Rüter & Stefan Hirtz

Marienburger Str. 16, 10405 Berlin

Telefon + 49 (0) 30 / 440 10 686
mail@artefakt-berlin.de

Press material available from:

www.artefakt-berlin.de

The prize-winner **Matt Mullican** (born in 1951) is a leading representative of what is known as the Pictures Generation, a group of artists who explored the impact of mass media images on everyday perception in the mid-1970s and so declared them to be an established element of their approach to art-making. For decades Mullican has been working on an artistic classification system for his world view, which he endeavours to capture in large-scale multi-media installations. His work extends over many different fields, ranging from painting and various reprographic techniques through to sculptures and performances; his exhibitions always interact with the specific features of the surrounding space.

Mullican was Professor for Time-based Media at the University of Fine Arts of Hamburg until 2019 and currently lives and works in Berlin and New York. His artistic development has taken him in innovative directions that further break down the boundaries between art and other disciplines. Above all, he tries to take the distinction between high and low art to the point of absurdity, because in his opinion it restricts creativity.

By awarding the second Possehl Prize for International Art to Matt Mullican the jury has acknowledged his life's work, which continues to have a strong influence on younger generations of artists.

Possehl Prize for International Art

The jury selects a winner from twelve candidates proposed by an international panel of experts. In their deliberations the jury members are looking for exceptional artistic curiosity, dedication and a continuous achievement over at least a decade, which are deserving of particular recognition. The prize is awarded in the categories of sculpture, installation, new media and performance, as well as art intervention. Intermedial connections between diverse forms of artistic expression in the artist's body of work are given particular weight by the jury.

In 2020 the Colombian artist Doris Salcedo won the first Possehl Prize for International Art and was honoured with a solo exhibition entitled Tabula Rasa in the Kunsthalle St.-Annen in Lübeck. In her objects and site-specific installations, Salcedo deals with the effects of violence and exclusion resulting from political and economic claims to authority in her home country, Colombia, and other regions of the world.

The Possehl Foundation also awards a prize to local artists as well as the Prize for International Art. In 2021 the Possehl Prize for Lübeck Art went to Heinke Both, and in prior years to Sebastian Schröder and Janine Gerber.

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